

# Analyzing U.S.-Soviet relations: Here's how

By Art Gorlick  
PI Reporter

Former CIA Director Stansfield Turner suggests that everyday citizens employ some techniques used by professional intelligence analysts as they contemplate future U.S.-Soviet relations in the nuclear age.

In a phone interview from his home in McLean, Va., the former admiral said citizens might consider using CIA analytical techniques to prepare for Public Summit '88 events, including a town meeting forum tonight at Seattle University.

"Ask yourself what options you think we have," suggested Turner, who was head of the CIA from 1977 to 1981. "Then think about which ones you prefer. Consider what can be done to shape these and then work up a fallback position."

Turner will be featured at the forum at 7:30 tonight in SU's Campion Ballroom, where he will moderate a public discussion on relations between the superpowers.

Public Summit '88 is a free non-partisan education and communications project designed to help Americans understand the choices they face in U.S.-Soviet relations.

Seattle-King County is one of four areas selected for Public Summit '88. The others are San Antonio, Texas; Nashville, Tenn.; and Baltimore.



PI 1986

Turner

Turner suggested that people hold discussions among family members and friends about nuclear-age relations between the two superpowers.

"It might be advisable to write down on a sheet of paper some key facts known about the U.S. and the Soviet Union," he said. "For example, one would be that we know that the Soviets are very strong with their

nuclear military forces. Two, they are strong with conventional forces — perhaps even stronger than the West.

"Three, we know they have a systemic economic problem which they recently acknowledged quite forthrightly. Four, we know they have cultural and social problems — human rights, in our terms — that involve the work ethic and motivation of people."

Each individual might add other things to such a list — and, he said, might consider an item as a strength of the Soviet Union while another considers it a liability.

An example, he said, might be "Soviet involvement in Afghanistan and Nicaragua."

"Some might consider this as strengthening the Soviets' hand, while others might list the same thing as one of their weaknesses," he said.

Local sponsors of the monthlong series of Public Summit '88 events are the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, KIRO-TV Eyewitness News Channel 7 and KIRO Newsradio 71.

Participants in the events will be asked to consider four alternatives facing Americans by the year 2010:

- The United States gaining military superiority over the Soviet Union.
- The countries reducing the risk of nuclear war, while remaining adversaries.
- The two superpowers working together on mutual problems.
- Both nations retreating from military affairs and concentrating on domestic issues.

National sponsors are the Center for Foreign Policy Development at Brown University and the New York-based Public Agenda Foundation.

Although the forum may not produce anything concrete, Turner said, it will be "fun and stimulating."

"But this is what America is all about — having an informed and interested public," he said. "That's why we're doing it — not that there will be a lightning stroke of wisdom, but so that each individual will be more responsible as a citizen."

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